

110TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1550

To reduce the reporting and certification burdens for certain financial institutions of sections 302 and 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

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IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 15, 2007

Mr. JONES of North Carolina introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

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## A BILL

To reduce the reporting and certification burdens for certain financial institutions of sections 302 and 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Regulatory Relief and  
5       Fairness Act”.

6       **SEC. 2. CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY RELATED TO CER-**  
7       **TAIN FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS.**

8       Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (15  
9       U.S.C. 7241) is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “The Commis-  
2 sion” and inserting “Subject to subsection (c), the  
3 Commission”;

4 (2) by redesignating subsection (c) as sub-  
5 section (d); and

6 (3) by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-  
7 lowing new subsection:

8 “(c) EXEMPTION FOR CERTAIN FINANCIAL INSTITU-  
9 TIONS.—The Commission’s rules under subsection (a)  
10 shall permit an issuer to elect voluntarily not to provide  
11 the certification in subsection (a) if the issuer is—

12 “(1) an insured depository institution, as such  
13 term is defined in section 3(c)(2) of the Federal De-  
14 posit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813(c)(2));

15 “(2) a bank holding company, as such term is  
16 defined in section 2(a) of the Bank Holding Com-  
17 pany Act of 1956 (12 U.S.C. 1841(a)); or

18 “(3) a savings and loan holding company, as  
19 such term is defined in section 10(a)(1)(D) of the  
20 Home Owners’ Loan Act (12 U.S.C.  
21 1467a(a)(1)(D)).”.

1 **SEC. 3. MANAGEMENT ASSESSMENT OF INTERNAL CON-**  
 2 **TROLS BY CERTAIN FINANCIAL INSTITU-**  
 3 **TIONS.**

4 Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 is  
 5 amended—

6 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “The Commis-  
 7 sion” and inserting “Subject to subsection (c), the  
 8 Commission”;

9 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-  
 10 section:

11 “(c) EXEMPTION FOR CERTAIN FINANCIAL INSTITU-  
 12 TIONS.—The Commission’s rules under subsection (a)  
 13 shall permit an issuer to elect voluntarily not to prepare  
 14 and provide the internal control report required by sub-  
 15 section (a) if the issuer is—

16 “(1) an insured depository institution, as such  
 17 term is defined in section 3(c)(2) of the Federal De-  
 18 posit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1813(c)(2));

19 “(2) a bank holding company, as such term is  
 20 defined in section 2(a) of the Bank Holding Com-  
 21 pany Act of 1956 (12 U.S.C. 1841(a)); or

22 “(3) a savings and loan holding company, as  
 23 such term is defined in section 10(a)(1)(D) of the  
 24 Home Owners’ Loan Act (12 U.S.C.  
 25 1467a(a)(1)(D)).”.